



Pharmacists and pharmacies: Lessons learned for improving vaccine access and vaccine equity for vulnerable populations

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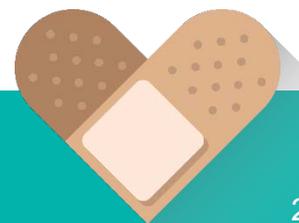
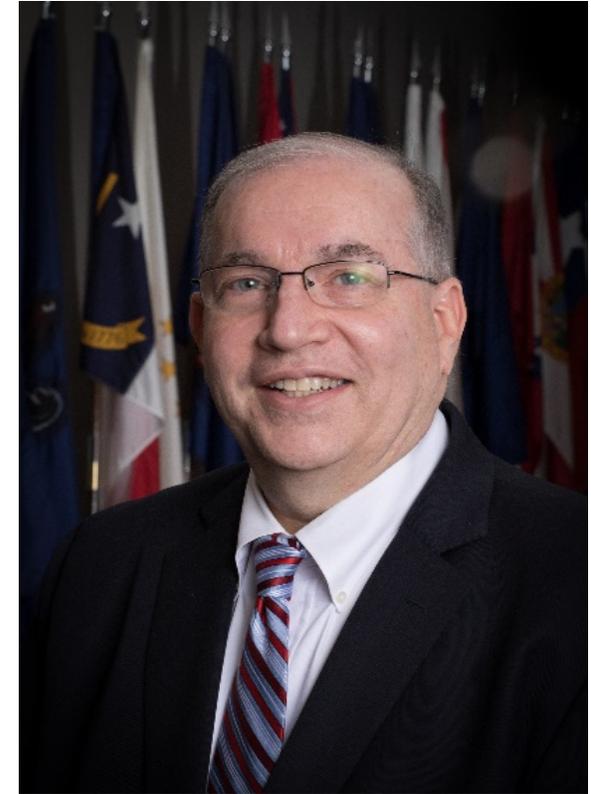
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CDC Guidance on Maintaining Routine Immunizations during COVID-19

Recommendations for Adults

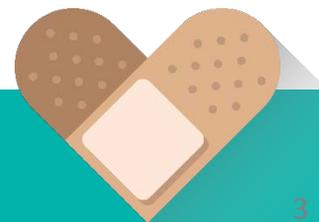
- Older adults and adults with underlying medical conditions are particularly at increased risk for preventable disease and complications if vaccination is deferred.
- Healthcare providers, whether they administer vaccines or not, should take steps to ensure that their patients continue to receive vaccines according to the Standards for Adult Immunization Practice.

Guidance also includes recommendations on the safe delivery of vaccines (e.g., use of personal protective equipment, physical distancing)

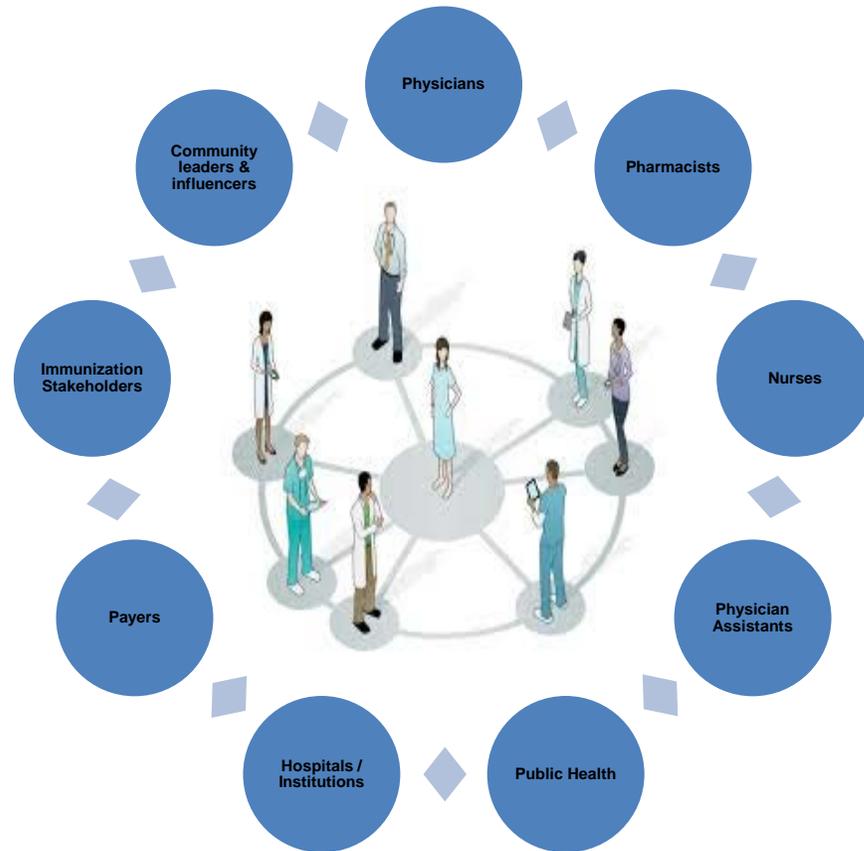
Because patients may be receiving vaccines outside their medical home, it is critical all vaccines are documented for accurate and timely information on patient vaccination status.

PLUS

- **Unified, coordinated messages, engaged multiple stakeholders**
- Alternative delivery approaches
- **Strong recommendation**



Immunization Neighborhood



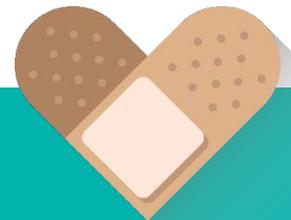
Immunization Neighborhood

Collaboration, **C**oordination, and **C**ommunication among immunization stakeholders dedicated to meeting the immunization needs of the patient and protecting the community from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Coined by APhA in 2012



- **Patient and community centric**
- An entire community can invest in **assessing, administering, and/or referring** patients to receive appropriate vaccines.
- Supports the **sharing and exchanging** of immunization **data**



Pharmacies increase Access to Vaccines Across the Lifespan

- More than **400,000** pharmacists, student pharmacists, and **100,000** pharmacy techs trained to administer vaccines
- More than **40,000** pharmacies in network to provide vaccinations
 - Trusted health care providers
 - Vaccinations reported to Immunization Registries



Administration [Priorities](#)

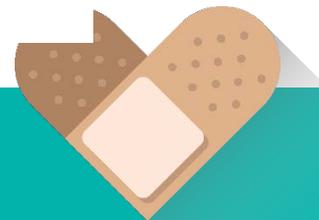
BRIEFING ROOM

FACT SHEET: President Biden Announces 90% of the Adult U.S. Population will be Eligible for Vaccination and 90% will have a Vaccination Site Within 5 Miles of Home by April 19

Older adults and people with disabilities who may need additional support to get vaccinated

**Areas pharmacists
can IMPACT!**

- Homebound
- Living with cognitive impairment or decline
- Living with mobility challenges, vision or hearing loss, or other disabilities
- Living in congregate or crowded settings, such as group homes and independent living facilities for older adults
- Living in remote, rural, or tribal areas
- Without family or community support to help them find out about vaccines
- Without access to the internet or unable to use online scheduling systems
- In an ethnic, racial, or other group at higher risk for COVID-19
- Not native English speakers



Provision of Pharmacy Services During COVID-19

Ready, Willing and Able BUT Stressed & Stretched

January.....December

Continuity of Patient Care (medications, MTM and other services)

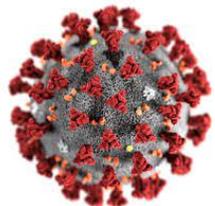
Year-round offering of vaccinations

Flu-vaccination

Flu-vaccination

COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 Vaccination



Healthcare provider shortages, well-being, etc.



Additional COVID-19 vaccine doses / COVID-19 vaccine Boosters

Relaunching of Routine Vaccination Efforts

When is the right time to focus on routine adult vaccinations?

Co-administration and vaccine timing
COVID-19 Post-Vaccination Time
Observation and Education

Will the public have a heightened interest / appreciation to obtain recommended vaccines (full protection against vaccine-preventable disease)

Protect yourself, your family, and your community by keeping your immunization record up-to-date

After YOU receive any immunization:

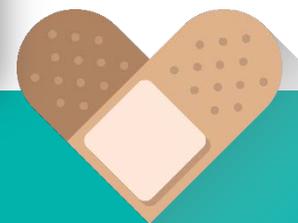
- ✓ Ask your pharmacist and other health care providers to **UPDATE** your Immunization Record Card
- ✓ Ask your pharmacist and other health care providers to **REPORT** the vaccination to the Immunization Registry
- ✓ **CARRY** and **SHARE** your updated Immunization Record / Card with every member of your health care team

✓ Check the CDC Immunization recommendations below!

Recommended for All Adults (During your lifetime. Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need these recommended vaccines.)	Recommended for Older Adults	Special Recommendations (People with certain health conditions may need these vaccines.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Flu✓ Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)✓ Meningitis✓ Human Papilloma Virus✓ Cholesterol✓ Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap/Boost)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Shingles (≥ 60 years)✓ Pneumococcal (≥ 65 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Pneumococcal✓ Hepatitis A or B✓ Meningitis

Receive your recommended immunizations
Have your immunization record updated
Help keep yourself, your family, and community healthy

Funding for this poster was made possible by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. CDC Cooperative agreement: 1Y49P000864-01



Opportunity Knocks

Things You Can Do...

Protect yourself, your family, and your community by being

Up-to-Date on your immunizations and ensure your vaccination record is up-to-date

After YOU receive any immunization:

- Ask your pharmacist and other health care providers to
 - ✓ **UPDATE** your Immunization Record Card
- Ask your pharmacist and other health care providers to
 - ✓ **REPORT** the vaccination to the Immunization Registry
- CARRY and SHARE** your updated Immunization Record / Card with every member of your health care team
- SECURE** your immunization record cards
 - ✓ Use an app to track your vaccinations OR
 - ✓ Take a picture of your card(s) and securely store on your cell

Check the CDC Immunization recommendations below!

You do not have to wait before or after getting a COVID-19 vaccination to receive another recommended vaccine.

Recommended to All Adults (During your lifetime; Talk to your healthcare provider to find out if you need these recommended vaccines)

- Flu
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough (Td/Tdap)
- Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Meningitis
- Chickenpox

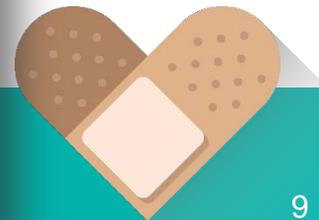
Recommended for Older Adults

- Shingles (> 50 years)
- Pneumococcal (> 65 years)

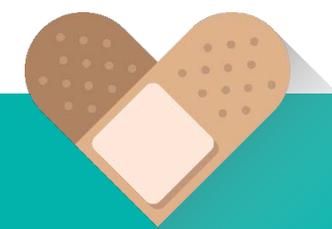
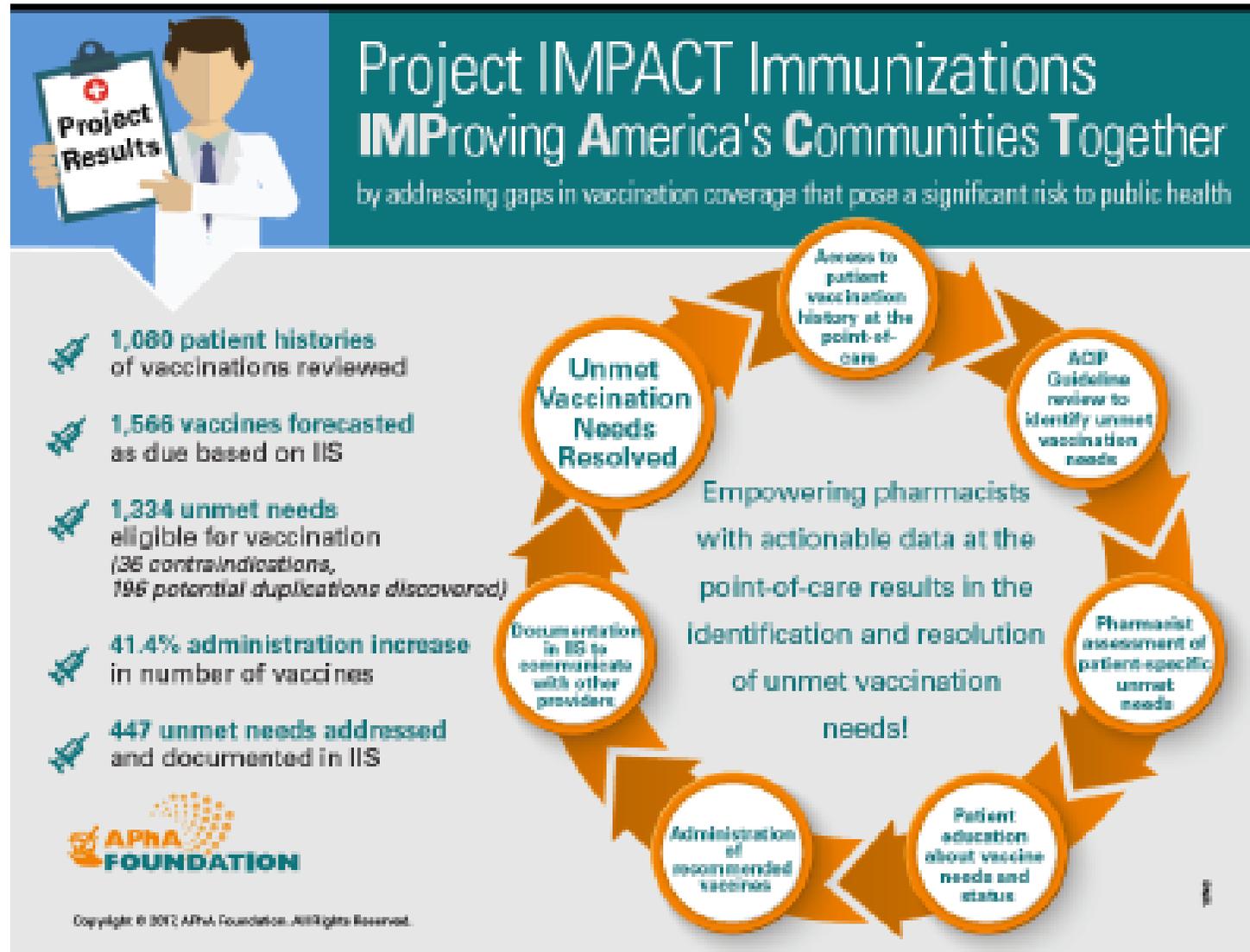
Special Recommendations (People with certain health conditions may need these vaccines) Pneumococcal

- Hepatitis A or B
- Meningitis

Talk to your Pharmacist or other Healthcare Provider if you have any questions or concerns related to immunizations, your health and to schedule a vaccination.



- Point of care access to immunization data can increase opportunity for immunization discussion and delivery

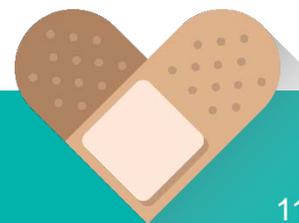


Coadministration with COVID-19 Vaccines

- Clarification to providers that it is OK to co-administer
 - Considerations
 - Reactogenicity potential, especially for adjuvanted and other vaccines (Td/ tdap)
 - Informing patient of potential reactions and management
 - Administering vaccines in different arms, etc,
 - Not missing opportunities

2021-22 Influenza

- *Current guidance concerning administration of COVID-19 vaccines with other vaccines (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>) indicates that these vaccines may be given with other vaccines, including influenza vaccines. No data are currently available concerning coadministration of currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines and influenza vaccines. Providers should be aware of the potential for increased reactogenicity with coadministration, and should consult CDC guidance at the referenced link for updated guidance as more information becomes available. If coadministered, COVID-19 vaccines and vaccines that might be more likely to cause a local reaction (e.g., aIIV4 or HD-IIV4) should be administered in different limbs, if possible.*



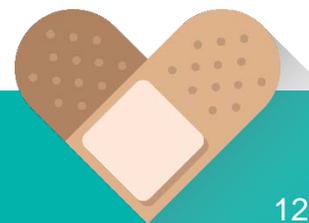
Timing of Vaccination - Influenza

Protection wanes over season – more pronounced in older adults, less evidence in children

Adults:

“For non-pregnant adults, influenza vaccination during July and August should be avoided unless there is concern that later vaccination might not be possible.”

- *Uncertainty of what post September 20 looks like*
- *Individuals coming in asking for 3rd dose / booster of COVID vaccine but not in alignment with current recommendation*
 - *opportunity to offer other vaccines*



Additional Stress... Boosters: Yes, No, Who, What, When & Why? Public Confusion...

Questions about who can receive a booster dose

- Can people who received the J&J/Janssen vaccine get a booster dose made by another manufacturer?
- Can people receive the J&J/Janssen vaccine as a booster dose?
- What conditions make a person eligible to receive an additional or a booster dose?
- Will people with compromised immune systems need a booster dose eight months after their third dose?
- Should antibody testing be used to determine if a person should get a booster dose?
- Do people who previously had COVID-19 need a booster dose?

Questions about the safety of booster doses

- What are the side effects of the booster dose?
- How do we know booster doses are safe?

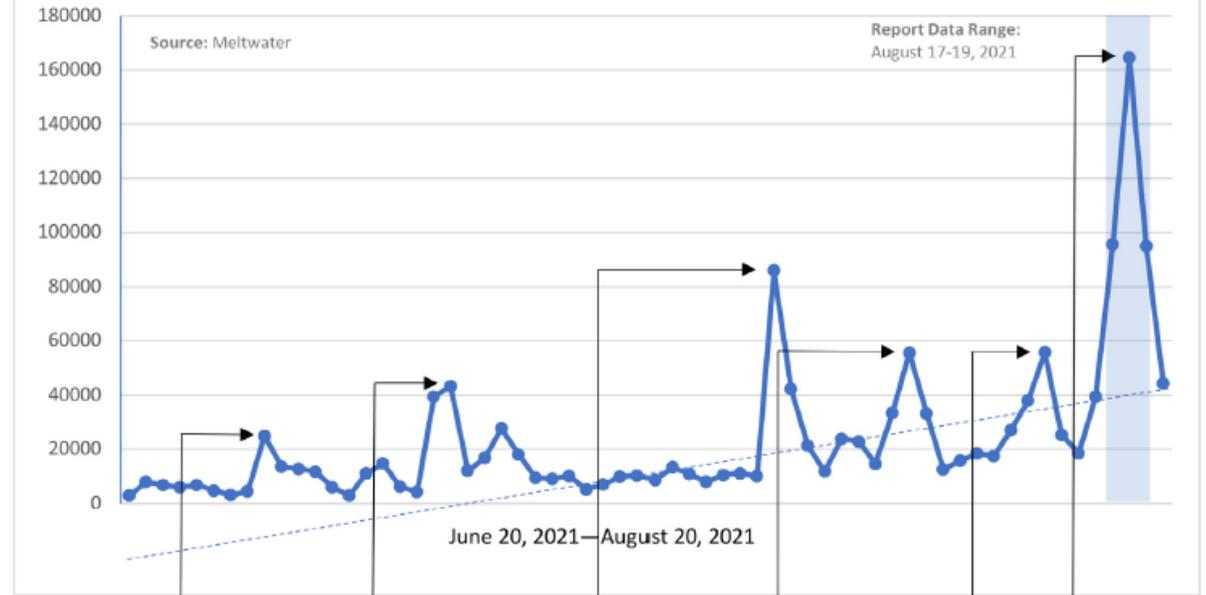
Question about why a booster dose is needed

- If a person has enough antibodies to COVID-19, do they still need a booster dose?
- Other vaccines don't require a booster dose; why will COVID-19 vaccines require booster doses?
- What evidence supports the decision to wait eight months after the previous dose before getting a booster dose?
- Will administering booster doses help us reach herd immunity?

Other Questions

- Should a person receive the same brand of COVID-19 vaccine for their booster dose as the primary series they received?
- When can people start getting the booster doses?
- Will people who receive a booster dose need to continue to wear masks?
- Would not having the booster dose mean you are not fully vaccinated in instances where you need to prove your vaccination status?
- What is the difference between the primary series, the additional dose, and the booster dose?
- Are the booster doses going to be free, and if not, what is the cost?
- How many booster doses will people need to get?
- Will a booster dose decrease the chance of someone getting or becoming sick with COVID-19?

Mentions of Booster Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines on Digital Media



June 28:

New study shows that Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines offer long-term protection from severe illness by COVID-19, however, emerging variants may require booster doses.

July 28:

Pfizer announces data suggesting booster dose provides strong protection against circulating variants of the virus that causes COVID-19.

August 13:

FDA authorizes additional dose of mRNA vaccines for people with compromised immune systems.

July 9:

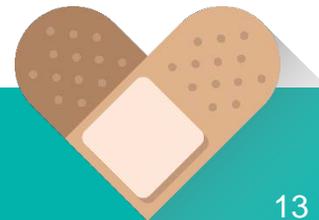
Pfizer announces that booster dose of vaccine will likely be needed. Data shows waning immunity 6 months after 2nd dose administered.

August 5:

Moderna announces booster dose will likely be needed this fall, despite data showing strong protection at 6 months after 2nd dose administered.

August 18:

Announcement of booster dose program of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines for U.S. adults at White House COVID-19 press briefing.



NOT RECOMMENDED AT THIS TIME

Additional Dose

Administered when the immune response following an original vaccine series is **likely insufficient**.

Certain immunocompromised individuals **should** receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine to achieve a sufficient level of protection.

Updated **three-dose** mRNA vaccine series for severely or moderately immunocompromised individuals:

Dose 1 → Dose 2 → Dose 3

Booster Dose

Administered when the immune response following an original vaccine series is sufficient, but likely to have **waned over time**.

Vaccinated individuals **may** be recommended to receive a booster dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine to maintain a sufficient level of protection.

Example of the potential **two-dose** vaccine series, followed by a **booster**:

Dose 1 → Dose 2 → Booster

**Booster doses are not recommended at this time.*

There are currently not enough data to support a recommendation for additional doses or boosters in individuals who received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. FDA and CDC are working to provide guidance to these individuals.

Self-Attestation Statement for COVID-19 Vaccine Recipient

Please indicate your eligibility to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine:

- I am an individual whose immune system is moderately or severely compromised due to a medical condition or the effects of a medication or treatment, as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). * I request a third dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

*Please check the appropriate box below:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

Date of second COVID-19 mRNA dose: _____

Note: Third dose should be administered at least 28 days after second dose.

Vaccine product received: _____

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



<https://www.pharmacist.com/Practice/COVID-19/Know-the-Facts>

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[*https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#considerations-additional-vaccine-dose](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#considerations-additional-vaccine-dose)

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*Please check the appropriate box below:

- Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Receipt of CAR T-cell or hematopoietic stem cell transplant (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy)
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., ≥ 20 mg prednisone or equivalent per day)
- Active treatment with alkylating agents
- Active treatment with antimetabolites
- Active treatment with transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs
- Active treatment with cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive
- Active treatment with tumor-necrosis (TNF) blockers
- Active treatment with other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory

Date of second COVID-19 mRNA dose: _____

Note: Third dose should be administered at least 28 days after second dose.

Vaccine product received: _____

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



APhA Vaccine Confident Playbook

Know the Facts (Practice Resources)



Addressing concerns that the COVID-19 vaccines were "rushed"

DOWNLOAD

VIEW TOPIC >

Addressing concerns about COVID-19 vaccine side effects

DOWNLOAD

VIEW TOPIC >

Addressing concerns related to pregnancy, breastfeeding, and fertility

DOWNLOAD

VIEW TOPIC >

Addressing concerns related to religious beliefs

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Addressing the belief that COVID-19 vaccination is "not needed"

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Addressing COVID-19 vaccine myths

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Understanding the "system distrusters"

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Understanding the "COVID skeptics"

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Understanding the "cost anxious"

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Resources For Pharmacists

Pharmacists can build valuable skills and share success stories. This website is designed to help pharmacy teams build their own confidence and communicate the importance of vaccination through resources based on science, shared knowledge, and experiences with their patients.

LEARN MORE >



Visit APhA's **Vaccine Confident** website to access resources, talking points, and other information to empower pharmacists to build vaccine confidence.

<https://vaccineconfident.pharmacist.com/>

[Visit the COVID-19 Practice Resource Library](#)

Making a Difference



Pharmacist Leads by Example and Uses Social Media to Educate Her Community



Putting People at Ease by Providing Vaccines at Familiar Community Locations



Helping Underserved People Overcome Fear and Logistics Problems to Get Vaccinated



Pharmacist Leverages Trust to Improve Vaccine Confidence Among Black Community Members



Independent Pharmacist Brings Vaccines to Immigrant Communities



Pharmacist Gives Patients the Time They Need to Feel Confident About Vaccination



Pharmacist Counters Vaccine Hesitancy in Vietnamese American Community and Beyond



Represent Your Community, Show Them They Matter, and Meet Them Where They Are

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